

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

INFORMATION LETTER

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LIABILITY FOR MISLABELING

An inquiry has been received concerning the liability of a canner for packing and shipping in interstate commerce food products bearing labels that do not properly describe the products, even though the buyer has given the canner written notice that the buyer will relieve the canner from any liability for the labeling of the goods.

The Federal Food and Drugs Act provides that any person who shall ship or deliver for shipment from any state or territory or the District of Columbia to any other state or territory or the District of Columbia, or to a foreign country, or who shall receive in any state or territory or in the District of Columbia from any other state or territory or the District of Columbia, or foreign country, and having so received, shall deliver, in original unbroken packages, for pay or otherwise, or offer to deliver to any other person, any such articles so adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of this Act, or any person who shall sell or offer for sale in the District of Columbia or the territories of the United States any such adulterated or misbranded foods or drugs, or export or offer to export the same to any foreign country, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

The Act also provides in Section 9 the means by which a dealer may be protected from prosecution by securing a suitable guarantee from the wholesaler, jobber or manufacturer, but there is no provision in the Act by which the shipper of adulterated or misbranded foods can avoid responsibility.

Furthermore, if the Government should secure evidence of such an arrangement between the buyer and the shipper to deliberately ship misbranded goods, it is possible that action might be taken on the charge of conspiracy to violate a Federal statute.

FORECAST OF LIMA BEANS FOR CANNING

Based upon actual and probable yields reported by canners, the 1930 production of green lima beans for canning or manufacture, will be 15 per cent less than production in 1929. The

1930 acreage, according to reports from 47 firms, is 27 per cent larger than that grown last year. The average yield per acre is only two-thirds of last year's yield.

The following table gives a comparison of acreage reported by the 47 firms for 1929 and 1930, with the indicated yields and productions for the two years:

State	Reported acreage by 47 firms		Production	
	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	1929 1,000 lbs.	1930 1,000 lbs.
Delaware	7,000	9,550	8,813	8,356
Maryland	2,373	2,725	2,219	1,553
Michigan	3,725	4,417	1,594	1,104
Minnesota	800	920	800	644
New Jersey	1,490	1,570	1,416	1,020
Ohio	1,450	1,830	783	624
Virginia	3,270	4,190	4,892	3,017
Other states*	2,147	3,155	1,540	2,287
Total	22,255	28,357	22,093	18,895

* Other states include Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah and Wisconsin.

TRUCK CROP MARKETS

Total carlot movement of fruits and vegetables is approaching its annual peak. Combined forwardings of 34 leading products increased sharply during the week ended October 4 to 30,885 cars, but still were 1,700 cars short of the corresponding record for last year. Shipments of potatoes, grapes and apples together comprised two-thirds of the total output.

Grapefruit shipments decreased somewhat to 305 cars, of which Florida furnished 285 and Texas about 15. Approximately 40 carloads each arrived from Cuba and Porto Rico. A few more cars of oranges rolled from Florida, but most of the week's 525 cars were California fruit. Orange shipments were less than half as heavy as a year ago.

Tomatoes required nearly 1,000 cars, of which 520 originated in California, 250 in Indiana, 75 in Ohio and 50 cars each in New York and New Jersey.

The season for plums and fresh prunes was nearly finished, as only 50 carloads moved during early October.

Carlot movement of apples increased nearly 50 percent over the preceding week. About 6,380 cars were shipped, two coming from the West for each car from the East. Movement of apples was exceeded only by that of potatoes and grapes. Washington reported the heavy total of 2,725 cars, Idaho 815, Oregon 285 and California 340 cars. In the East, New York was credited with 560, the Virginias with 615, Michigan with 195 and Illinois with 175 cars. A severe windstorm recently did much damage in Michigan orchards.

Pear movement decreased to 1,415 cars, of which Washington supplied 525, Oregon 275, California 225, New York 230 and Michigan 65 cars.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Sept. 28 Oct. 4 1930	Sept. 21-27 1930	Sept. 29 Oct. 5 1929	Total this season to Oct. 4	Total last season to Oct. 5	Total last season
Apples, total	6,378	4,445	6,338	23,572	25,533	102,821
Eastern states	2,012	1,791	3,145	11,045	17,778	51,444
Western states	4,366	2,654	3,193	12,527	7,755	51,377
Cabbage	1,328	938	1,049	22,123	28,732	44,144
Carrots:						
1931 season	52	0	54	52	54	10,147
1930 season	62	97	90	10,147	10,000	12,142
Cauliflower	162	113	364	1,259	1,522	9,540
Cucumbers	53	80	16	7,143	7,211	7,460
Green peas	83	92	40	6,473	5,053	5,160
Mixed deciduous fruit	117	177	128	5,367	4,837	5,192
Mixed vegetables	407	441	408	25,202	27,282	32,430
Peaches	187	346	185	38,047	35,357	35,451
Pears	1,415	1,877	1,186	22,772	17,123	21,146
Peppers	53	44	90	2,355	2,810	3,332
Plums and prunes	51	181	304	8,614	5,979	6,046
Spinach	24	6	34	9,420	9,863	10,348
String beans	42	11	119	8,971	7,749	8,641
Tomatoes	995	1,182	943	28,936	28,748	32,202

REPORT ON SOUTHERN RATE CASE

Proposed rates on canned goods, in carloads, from, to and between points in Southern territory are justified except where departures from the long-and-short haul rule of the fourth section would result to destinations in North Carolina, and the establishment of the rates found justified will result in maximum reasonable and nondiscriminatory rates, according to a report submitted to the Interstate Commerce Commission by Examiner Trezise.

The schedules which are now under suspension and which will be made effective in event the Interstate Commerce Commission in its decision approves the findings of the examiner, would cancel commodity rates on canned goods, in carloads, within Southern territory and between Southern territory and Eastern, Central and Illinois territories and would establish seventh-class rates on those commodities except to the Peninsula of Florida south of the line of the Seaboard Air Line running from River Junction to Jacksonville, Fla., where sixth-class rates generally are in effect.

The schedules under suspension provide a single class for the whole movement instead of undertaking to divide the canned goods list into two classes as was done in the Consolidated Southwestern cases.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

Business conditions during the week ended October 4, as measured by bank debits, outside New York City, registered a marked gain over the week of September 27, but declined from the corresponding week in 1929.

Wholesale prices as indicated by the index of 120 commodities showed a fractional change from the preceding week and were below the level of a year ago.

Bank loans and discounts of Federal Reserve member banks for the latest week recorded a slight gain over a week ago and were only slightly below their total of a year ago.

Time money rates were lower while call rates showed no change from the preceding week. Business failures during the past week were less numerous than a week ago.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	Merchandise L. C. L.	Other
Week ending September 27..	950,381	382,165	244,733	323,483
Preceding week.....	952,512	382,087	244,799	325,626
Corresponding week, 1929....	1,203,139	489,535	273,494	440,110
Corresponding week, 1928....	1,196,854	480,511	270,568	445,775

METHOD TO PREVENT INSECT DAMAGE TO STORED SEED CORN

A new and very promising method for protecting stored seed corn from damage by weevil, grain moth and other insects, has been developed by W. P. Flint, entomologist at the University of Illinois.

It has been found that treatment of the shelled corn with a special kind of oil emulsion gave almost complete protection. In the tests, treated and untreated lots of seed were exposed to the attacks of insects for a period of six months to a year. The highest infestation in the treated lots was 9 percent and the lowest 0.1 percent. Untreated lots were 100 percent infested. The treatment appears to have no effect on germination.

Among the various oil emulsion treatments tested, two which gave the best results were the commercial preparation known as "Volck" and a home-made oil-potassium oleate emulsion. "Dendrol," another commercial preparation, also proved very effective, but in one case slightly reduced the germinating power of the corn. "Volck" or "Dendrol" are used at a dilution of 1 to 10. Mr. Flint of the University of Illinois, Urbana, will be glad to furnish directions for the preparation of home-made oil-potassium oleate emulsion.

Seed corn to be treated is dipped in the diluted solution, allowed to drain and dry. One bushel of corn will take up about 2 pounds of the diluted solution.

DEPARTMENT STORE SALES IN SEPTEMBER

Department store sales in September were 7 per cent smaller than in the corresponding month a year ago, according to preliminary reports made to the Federal reserve system by 538 stores located in leading cities of all Federal reserve districts; on a daily average basis sales were 11 per cent smaller than a year ago. Sales during the first nine months of this year were 6 per cent below the level of a year ago.

FARM PRICES

The general level of farm prices advanced 3 points from the unusually low level reached on August 15 and on September 15 was 111 percent of the pre-war level, according to the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics. At 111, however, the index was 30 points below September 15, 1929, and at the lowest September level since 1915.

Farm price movements from August 15 to September 15 showed advances for practically all commodities except cotton, cottonseed, wheat, flaxseed, apples, lambs and horses.

SWISS PURE FOOD REGULATIONS REVISED

The Swiss pure food regulations have been modified by a decree of the Swiss Federal Council providing that foodstuffs are not to bear denominations attributing to them a preventive or curative therapeutic action, or hygienic properties superior to those which they possess naturally. Restrictions are also imposed on the use of indications of vitamin contents, or of descriptions containing either the word vitamin or abbreviations of this word with specific or fancy designations.

DRY BEAN STANDARDS AMENDED

The U. S. standards for beans promulgated in 1926 have been amended by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, effective August 1, 1930. The changes in the standards are the result of further studies of all phases of the dried edible bean industry and the practical application of the standards as originally promulgated. The amendments are designed to bring the standards more closely in line with local production problems, marketing methods, and consumer requirements. Copies of the amendment may be obtained by communicating with the Bureau of Agricultural Economics at Washington, D. C.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Cool weather persisted during the week ended October 7 in nearly all states east of the Mississippi River, with freezing temperatures over a considerable section in the Northeast and in Appalachian Mountain districts as far south as southwest

Virginia, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau. Light to heavy frosts were rather general in central and northern states, with some frost reported as far south as western North Carolina. West of the Mississippi River freezing weather was confined to a few areas in the extreme North.

Rainfall was substantial to heavy in nearly all sections between the Mississippi River and Rocky Mountains. Many excessive amounts were reported in the southern part of this area. It was light to moderate in most places west of the Rocky Mountains, and was rather heavy in some northern mountain districts. East of the Mississippi River, the week was practically rainless, though showers had set in at its close in the western Lake region, and in some sections immediately east of the river.

ITALIAN CANNERY OPERATIONS

Italian canneries are now operating full time on generally good quality products, according to the commercial attache at Rome, but the crops of fruits and vegetables are rather short.

FRENCH FISHING INDUSTRY

The Department of Commerce is in receipt of a comprehensive report on the French fishing industry submitted by the American vice-consul at Nantes. This report which contains comparative figures of yearly production, a number of tables giving imports and exports, and other information on the French fishing industry, can be obtained by interested American firms upon application to the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce at Washington, D. C., or through any of the Bureau's district or cooperative offices.

VALUE OF MEATS AS SOURCES OF VITAMIN G

Vitamin G, growth-promoting factor for animals and man, is found to be from five to eight times more abundant in beef liver, pork liver, and beef kidney than in lean beef, pork, and lamb, according to a series of tests recently finished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The experiments involved the feeding of young albino rats which were kept in separate cages and weighed regularly. All comparisons were made on the basis of air-dry, fat-free materials. The rats were first fed a basal ration lacking only in vitamin G until growth ceased, when meat or meat by-products were added to supply the growth-producing factor. Lean beef, pork, and lamb appeared to contain approximately the same quantities of the growth-producing vitamin G and when comprising from 15 to 25 percent of the rats' rations, resulted in excel-

lent growth. Beef spleen appeared to contain as much of this vitamin as beef.

The tests indicated that 3 percent of beef liver or pork liver and slightly less of beef kidney, in a rat's diet, furnished an ample supply of vitamin G for rapid growth. The minimum quantity necessary for normal growth is probably considerably less than the proportions indicated.

Among other foods known as good sources of vitamin G are egg yolk, salmon, wheat germ, bananas, leafy vegetables, and milk. These are not, however, comparable with each other in the amount of vitamin supplied, but all furnish it in appreciable amounts.

NOTES ON PUBLICATIONS

GREENHOUSE TOMATOES.—The Department of Agriculture has published a revised edition of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1431 on greenhouse tomatoes.

CHERRY GROWING.—The Agricultural Experiment Station of Michigan State College at East Lansing has issued as Special Bulletin No. 195 a 27-page illustrated pamphlet on maintaining the productivity of cherry trees. As a result of its experiment work, the station finds that the two most important things from the standpoint of increasing and maintaining the productivity of sour cherry trees are (1) to employ such soil management methods as will promote a reasonable and vigorous shoot growth, and (2) to control the leaf spot disease by proper spraying.

ORCHARD MANAGEMENT.—In Circular 83 issued by the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station at Logan, practical information is furnished on planning, planting and caring for the young orchard. This 32-page bulletin contains a number of diagrams.

PEAR PRODUCTION COSTS.—Cost and efficiency in pear production in the Rogue River Valley are discussed in Station Bulletin 267 issued by the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at Corvallis. The bulletin contains a number of excellent half-tone illustrations and presents detailed statistics on the harvest and preharvest cost per acre in pear production during the three years, 1924, 1925 and 1927.

ABSTRACTS OF CANNING TECHNOLOGY

With this issue of the Information Letter is mailed a copy of Issue No. 3, Volume 8, of the Abstracts of Canning Technology. Should any member fail to receive a copy he is requested to advise the association at once.

ITALY IMPOSES DUTY ON SALMON

An Italian decree of October 2, effective at once, imposes a duty on canned salmon, which formerly was free of duty when entering that country, according to a report from the American commercial attache at Rome. The duty on salmon in tins weighing not over $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo (including the tin) is 35 gold lire per 100 kilos, or 3.2 cents per pound. The duty on salmon in tins weighing over $\frac{1}{2}$ kilo but not over 1 kilo is 30 lire per 100 kilos, or 2.7 cents per pound. A kilo is equivalent to 2.2 pounds.

REVISED FORECAST ON SNAP BEANS

Revised estimates on snap beans for canning, issued by the Department of Agriculture, put the prospective production at 85,820 tons, as compared with 90,670 in 1929.

State	Acreage		Production	
	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	1929 Tons	1930 Tons
Maine	1,300	†1,300	2,730	3,510
New York	9,800	11,270	14,700	14,050
Pennsylvania	2,720	3,350	3,810	2,680
Indiana	3,500	3,710	3,500	2,230
Michigan	5,300	5,900	4,770	5,390
Wisconsin	7,400	8,580	9,020	6,860
Delaware	†2,200	2,550	2,040	1,790
Maryland	8,400	9,740	14,280	7,790
South Carolina	870	830	1,300	830
Tennessee	2,000	2,400	2,400	2,400
Mississippi	1,800	2,040	1,800	2,040
Arkansas	2,240	2,510	2,400	1,290
Louisiana	†2,530	†4,810	2,530	5,770
Colorado	2,300	†1,900	6,900	7,840
Utah	1,280	1,520	2,560	4,710
Washington	820	940	2,460	3,100
Oregon	930	880	2,790	3,080
California	750	810	3,000	3,320
Other States*	5,300	6,630	6,360	5,970
U. S. Total	61,500	72,420	90,670	85,820

* "Other States" include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming.

† Revised.

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